

MARK 10-16; LUKE 1

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- a. *The Bible reading plan for Week 23: Mk 10-16; Lk 1*
- b. *The following questions may be used for personal reflection or cell group discussion. You do not need to attempt all questions at cell meetings.*

1. Who came to Jesus in Mk 10:17? What question did he ask?

What did Jesus teach the man about goodness in Mk 10:18? (Think: Was Jesus here denying that He was good? What was His point?)

What did Jesus tell the man to do (Mk 10:19)? How did the man respond (Mk 10:20)?

So what did Jesus tell the man to do then in v. 20? How did the man respond (Mk 10:22)?

Was Jesus teaching that all Christians must give up all their possessions? Prove your answer by Scripture. What lessons should we learn?

What did Jesus teach about riches in v. 23? How did this affect the disciples (Mk 10:24)? (Think: Why might the disciples react in this way?)

What did Jesus teach to clarify His point (Mk 10:24-25)?

List other passages about the dangers of wealth.

What did the disciples think about this teaching (Mk 10:26)? How did Jesus answer their concern (Mk 10:27)?

Explain the sense in which it is possible for God to save a rich man, whereas he cannot save himself. Note: Can any man save himself apart from the power of God?

What do we learn from the statement of Jesus about the nature of God? List other passages showing that God is all-powerful.

What did Peter say in response to the teaching of Jesus about riches (Mk 10:28)? In what sense was this true?

What blessings did Jesus say people would receive if they are willing to sacrifice for His sake (Mk 10:29-30)?

In what sense do people receive a hundred-fold in this life for serving the Lord? When do we receive eternal life as an actual possession: in this life or in the world to come?

Explain some ways in which people may need to forsake loved ones, possessions, etc., to please God. What application does this have to the hardships and difficulties that we may face in this life?

2. Explain the purpose of Jesus entering Jerusalem the way He did (Mk 11:1-10). What Old Testament Scripture did this fulfill? How would this differ from the expectation people had of Him as king?

Define "Hosanna" (Mk. 11:9-10). What does this tell you about the people's expectation of Jesus?

Where did Jesus go when He entered Jerusalem (v. 11)? Where did He go to spend the night?

What did Jesus see the next day when He came out from Bethany (Mk 11:12-14)? What did He say when He saw this?

Did Jesus do this for the sake of the fig tree? Who would benefit from this act? Explain. (Think: Why curse a fig tree for not having figs when it was not the season?)

What lesson should the people of Israel learn from the cursing of the fig tree? What should we learn?

Describe what Jesus did in the temple in Mk 11:15-16. Give book, chapter, verse showing when He did this before.

What scriptural authority did He cite for His action in v. 17? Where is this passage(s) found in the Old Testament?

Explain in your own words the justification for what Jesus did. What were His reasons, and why were His actions proper?

What attitude did the scribes and priests have toward this act of Jesus (Mk 11:18-19)? Why did they not carry out their desires? Once again, what does this show about them?

List passages showing the church is the temple of Christ today. As regards the church, what applications should we make of Jesus' act in cleansing the temple?

List passages showing that Christians are the temple of the Holy Spirit. What applications can we make of this event for our own lives as Christians? List any other lesson we should learn.

What did the disciples observe the next morning (vv. 20-21)? What comment did Peter make?

Describe the lesson that Jesus taught about faith in response to Peter's comment about the fig tree (vv. 22-24). What importance did Jesus say faith has in regard to our prayers?

List other passages about God's answer to prayers. In particular, what conditions must prayer meet in order for God to answer?

Did Jesus literally mean for us to literally cast mountains into the sea? Did anyone in the first century do such a thing? Would it harmonize with the conditions of prayer for us to attempt to this day? What lessons should we learn?

What lesson does Jesus teach us about forgiveness in vv. 25-26?
What is the consequence of not being willing to forgive others?

List other passages about forgiving others.

Does God forgive our sins conditionally or unconditionally? What should we learn about our forgiveness of others?

What position did Jesus mention people being in when they pray in 11:25? List other passages that describe various positions people may be in when praying. Some people believe that it is disrespectful to God to pray when standing or when sitting. How would you respond to these views?

What question did various Jewish leaders ask Jesus in the temple (vv. 27-28)? Is the question about authority a valid question? Explain.

What question did Jesus ask the Jewish leaders in response to their question (vv. 29-30)? What two sources did Jesus mention as possible origins of authority?

What problem did Jesus' question raise for these Jewish leaders (11:31-32)? Explain their dilemma. How did Jesus then respond to the leaders (v. 33)? Explain why the approach Jesus used was wise. How did it demonstrate His skill as a teacher? What should we learn?

3. Who came to question Jesus in Mk 12:18? What unique beliefs did these people hold (see Acts 23:8)?

What consequences would follow from the doctrine these people held? What groups or types of people today hold similar views?

Describe the story that they told Jesus (vv. 19-23).

What Old Testament principle was the basis of their question? Give Old Testament book, chapter, verse.

Explain why this question would appear to be difficult for Jesus and all believers in the resurrection to answer.

How did Jesus answer the question about the woman had 7 husbands (Mk 12:24-25)? Explain how this was a good answer. How can we explain this context to respond to someone who believes in marriage after death?

What reasons did Jesus give to explain the Sadducees' confusion (v. 24)? What does this show about Jesus' willingness to debate and confront people who are in error?

What passage did Jesus use to respond to the Pharisees' view about the resurrection (v. 26)? Where is it found?

What observation did Jesus make in order to apply the passage (v. 27)? Explain how this disproved the view of the Sadducees.

What lessons can we learn from Jesus' use of Scripture? What application can we make to those who believe the Scriptures were not inspired or were not accurately preserved over the centuries? Explain.

Define: necessary inference. Some people teach that conclusions based on necessary inferences are not binding or valid. What can we learn about necessary inferences from the teaching that Jesus did with the Sadducees?

4. Who asked Jesus a question in Mk 12:28? What question did he ask?

What did Jesus say was the greatest command (Mk 12:29-30)? What did He say was the second greatest command (v. 31)? Where are these found in the Old Testament?

According to Matthew's account, how does this relate to other Bible commands? What can we learn about the importance of obedience? (Think: Were the greatest commands part of the 10 Commandments? What can we learn?)

List some biblical principles about what it means to love God and love others. Give Scriptures to prove what you say.

How did the scribe respond to Jesus, and how did He respond to the scribe (vv. 32-34)?

5. Please read Mark chap 13. What comment did a disciple make that occasioned the teaching in this chapter (v. 1)? What prediction did Jesus make in response (v. 2)?

Where was Jesus when he made the predictions in this chapter (v. 3)? Who was with him?

What questions did they ask Jesus (v. 4)? Based on the context, what does this tell us about the event that would fulfill the predictions Jesus makes?

What is the first danger that Jesus warns about (vv. 5-6)? What should we learn?

What did Jesus warn them in Mk 13:7-8? Did these signs mean that the end was imminent?

What danger should concern them according to v. 9? What must be achieved before the event that Jesus is predicting occurs in v. 10?

What promise was made to them when they would be arrested (v. 11)? Can this promise be fulfilled today? See 1 Cor 13:8-11.

How would other people treat Christians at that time (vv. 12-13)?

What assurance did Jesus give the disciples in this time of suffering (v. 13)? Where are other such promises found?

What specific sign should disciples watch for to tell them when to act (v. 14)? What should they do when they saw this occur?

What passage in Daniel did Jesus refer to here? What sign was it that fulfilled this prediction? Note carefully Lk 21:20.

When this event occurred, what were the people not to do (vv. 15-16)? Explain the significance. (Think: Could this have application to Jesus' second coming?)

What conditions might create problems for them in their flight (vv. 17-18)? Why would these things create problems? (Think: Would these things matter at Jesus' second coming?)

How severe would the suffering at this time be (v. 19)?

What did God promise to do to help his people (v. 20)? Explain how this might help.

What warning did Jesus give in vv. 21-22? List other passages about the deceitful nature of false teachers.

What had the Lord done to help the people prepare (v. 23)? How would this help?

List the signs that Jesus predicted in vv. 24-25.

Study the passages: Is 13:10; Ezek 32:7-8; Joel 2:10; Amos 8:9. Do the symbolic expressions used in these expressions refer to the second coming of Christ? Explain.

What will the people do according to v. 26?

Study Is 19:1; Ps 18:9-14; Ps 104:3; Dan 7:13-14. Does the coming of the Lord in these passages refer to the second coming of Jesus? (Think: See if you can find other passages where the coming of the Lord does not refer to the second coming.)

Whom would Jesus send and what will they do according to v. 27?

How does Jesus use a fig tree as a parable in v. 28? What lesson is taught by the parable of the fig tree (v. 29)? Based on what we have learned, will there be signs showing that the second coming of Jesus is at the doors?

What information does v. 30 add about when these things will happen? What things does Jesus refer to here?

Study the following: Matt 23:26; 12:39-45; 11:16; Lk 17:25; Acts 2:40. According to these verses, what did Jesus mean when he referred to "this generation"?

What event does Jesus predict in v. 31? List other passages about the destruction of the heaven and the earth.

How does this destruction of heaven and earth compare to the teachings of Jesus? (Think: Is Jesus still speaking about the same primary event that he was prior to v. 30?)

What information does v. 32 give about the destruction of heaven and earth? Run cross references and see what other passages may help us to understand what is discussed here?

Describe the parable Jesus presented in vv. 33-37. What would be represented by work being given to each servant? Explain in your own words the point of the parable. What lessons should we learn? How do we apply these lessons?

6. Read Mark chapter 14. What time of time of the year was it (Mk 14:1)? What did the Jewish leaders want to do, and what hindered them (vv. 1-2)?

Where did these events occur (v. 3)? What did the woman do? According to John's account, who was the woman?

What criticism did some raise of the woman (vv. 4-5)? According to John's account, who primarily made the criticism and what was his motive?

According to Mk 14:6-7, how did Jesus answer the criticism about giving money to the poor? Explain his meaning.

How did Jesus explain the act of the woman (v. 8)? What prediction did he make about her act (v. 9)?

Explain the agreement that Judas Iscariot made with the rulers of the Jews (vv. 10-11). According to other accounts, how much was he paid?

What can we learn about the character of Judas from this event? What lessons should we learn?

Describe the arrangements Jesus made to eat the Passover (vv. 12-16).

As Jesus was eating the Passover with the apostles, what prediction did he make (vv. 17-18)? What question did the disciples ask in response (v. 19)?

What answer did Jesus give to their question (v. 20)? What further information did he give about the man who would betray him (v. 21)?

What can we learn from the fact that Jesus predicted the betrayal ahead of time? Did God violate Judas's power of choice? What have we learned that shows that Judas was already corrupt?

As they were eating, what did Jesus do with the bread (v. 22)? What significance did he attach to the act?

Considering the nature of the feast, what kind of bread was this? According to 1 Cor 5:6-8, why is the symbol of leaven significant?

Why was the Passover an appropriate time for Jesus to institute this memorial?

According to Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor 10:16-17, who should participate in the breaking of the bread?

What did Jesus do next (v. 23)? What meaning did he give this element (v. 24)?

How did Jesus identify what we drink in the Lord's Supper in v. 25? What is meant by this expression?

When did Jesus say that he would drink the fruit of the vine new (v. 25)? (Think: When was this fulfilled?)

7. Where did Jesus go after he instituted the Lord's Supper (Mk 14:26)? What prediction did he make (v. 27)?

What Old Testament Scripture would this fulfill? Where is it found?

How did Peter respond to the statement of Jesus (v. 29)? What did Jesus predict Peter would do (v. 30)?

How did Peter respond to the prediction of Jesus (v. 31)? What should we learn from Peter's confidence?

Where did Jesus take the disciples? Whom did he take further with him, and what did he ask them to do (vv. 32-34)?

Describe the prayer he prayed (vv. 35-36). Explain the meaning.

List some lessons we can learn from Jesus' prayer in the garden.

What lessons can we learn about obedience from the prayer of Jesus in the garden?

How many times did Jesus pray this prayer (vv. 37-42)? What did the disciples do while he was praying?

What did Jesus say to them about this? What lessons can we learn from Mk 14:38?

8. Where was Jesus taken to be crucified (Mk 15:22)? What did they offer him, and how did he respond (v. 23)?

What was done with Jesus' clothing (v. 24)? According to parallel accounts, what Old Testament passage did this fulfill?

Describe crucifixion.

What accusation was written above Jesus (v. 26)? Who was crucified (v. 27)?

What Scripture did this fulfill and what does it say (v. 28)?

What statement of Jesus was used to mock him as he hung on the cross (vv. 29-30)?

What power of Jesus was questioned in v. 31? If he had this power, what did the people say he should do?

What the people say would happen if Jesus would come down from the cross (v. 32)? How do we know the statement was untrue?

Explain why this mockery would have been so difficult for Jesus to endure.

What miracle occurred as Jesus was on the cross (v. 33)? What other miracles are listed in other accounts?

What did Jesus cry out as he was on the cross according to Mk 15:34? What Old Testament passage is this quoting?

Explain in what sense the Father forsook Jesus on the cross.

For whom did some people think Jesus had called (vv. 35-36)? How did some people respond?

How is Jesus' death described in Mk 15:37? How do other accounts describe his death?

State some lessons we can learn about the death from the death of Jesus. If resurrection is the opposite of death, what can we learn about resurrection?

What happened in the temple when Jesus died (v. 38)? What might be the meaning of this?

What did the centurion say when Jesus died (v. 39)? Why might he have said this?

What women observed the death of Jesus (vv. 40-41)? What do we know about these women?

Who asked for the body of Jesus (vv. 42-43)? What day was this?

List some other things we know about this man.

What surprised Pilate about Joseph' request (v. 44)? What did he do before giving Joseph the body?

How does this context help answer those who theorize that Jesus never really died on the cross?

How was the body of Jesus prepared for burial (v. 46)? Who observed the burial?

Describe the tomb in which Jesus was buried. How does the burial of Jesus help confirm the resurrection when the body disappeared three days later?

9. Read Mark chapter 16. Who came to the tomb in vv. 1-2? Why did they come?

Please read the following passages: Matt 18:16; Jn 8:17; Deut 19:15; 2 Cor 13:1; 1 Tim 5:19; Heb 10:28. According to these passages, what is

the importance of the witnesses and especially a plurality of witnesses?

When different witnesses give their testimony, variations may occur between the accounts. Explain the significance of such variations. Do these necessarily constitute contradictions?

When did the women come? Study the various gospel accounts of the resurrection of Jesus. List verses that tell us on what day Jesus rose.

Study New Testament references to the first day of the week. Summarize what the passages say that show the importance of this day.

What concern did the women have as they approached the tomb (vv. 3-4)? What did they observe when they arrived?

Describe what they observed when they entered the tomb (v. 5)? How did they react?

What did the man say to them (v. 6)?

Study other passages about the resurrection of Jesus and list some reasons why his resurrection is important to us.

Was the body of Jesus in the tomb when the women went in? What is the significance to us of the fact that the body was missing?

What instruction did the angel give to the women (vv. 7-8)? So what did they do?

On what day did Jesus arise (v. 9)? To whom did he first appear?

What did she do after Jesus appeared to her (vv. 10-11)? How did the others respond?

To whom else did Jesus appear (v. 12)? Where else is his appearance mentioned?

What did these people do and how did others respond to their report (v. 13)?

To whom did Jesus later appear (v. 14)? What did Jesus have to say to them?

What conclusions can we reach from the fact that the disciples were so slow to believe the reports of the resurrection? (Note: Remember that the disciples at first did not believe. This becomes significant later in the chapter>)

Make a list of other passages in the various accounts in which Jesus appeared alive after his resurrection.

Explain why the appearances of Jesus as recorded in the Scriptures are important to our faith.

What responsibility did Jesus give to the apostles in v. 15? To whom did Jesus want the gospel preached? What can we learn from this?

Explain the importance of preaching in leading the lost to salvation. List other passages that describe our responsibility to spread this message.

What did Jesus say people must do in order to be saved (v. 16)? Summarize the conditions of salvation based on various gospel accounts of this (Great) Commission.

LUKE 2-8

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- a. The Bible reading for Week 24: Lk 2-8*
- b. The following questions may be used for personal reflection or cell group discussion. You do not need to attempt all questions at cell meetings.*

1. Read Luke chapters 1 and 2. From Lk 1:1-4, what do you learn about the Gospel of Luke? Discuss the historical accuracy of Luke's account.

Read Lk 1:26-38. What do we learn about Joseph and Mary in v. 27? Why do you think the information provide in v. 27 important? What prophecies about the Messiah are foud in Isa 11:1; Jer 33:15; Ezek 37:24; Hos 3:5?

Who sent the angel to Nazareth and how does the angel greet Mary in vv. 28-31?

Why did the angel then comfort Mary (v. 30)?

What did the angel say would happen to Mary in v. 31?

Describe the 4 ways in which her son, Jesus, will be great according to the angel (v. 32).

What would it mean to have a king whose kingdom would never end? What do you think Jesus' kingdom is like in the present?

How could Mary have a baby if she was a virgin (vv. 34-35)?

What sign did the angel give Mary to encourage her (vv. 36-37)?

How did Mary respond (v. 39)? What does this tell you about Mary (v. 45)?

How did Mary confirm the sign that was given to her (vv. 39-40)?

Describe the circumstances of Jesus' birth (Lk. 2:1-7). Where was Jesus born? What do you make of a king being born in humble circumstances as Jesus was?

To whom and how was Jesus' birth announced (vv. 8-12)? Why do you think God revealed his Son to shepherd and not those whom we might expect? (Look up Jn 1:36.)

What did the shepherds do after they had seen Jesus (v. 20)?

How are you challenged to tell other people about Jesus as the shepherds did?

2. Read Lk. 2:21-40. When and why did Joseph and Mary bring Jesus to the temple (v.21)?

While they were there, whom did they meet?

What was the name of the man that they met in the temple? What do we know about this man (vv. 25-26)?

Why did Simeon go to the temple at this time (v. 27)?

What did Simeon do and say about Jesus when he first saw the child (vv. 28-32)?

What was the surprising thing that Simeon say about Jesus in v. 32? Many Jews thought that the Messiah would come to save only his own people.

What prophecy did Simeon give about the paradoxical effect that Jesus would have on Israel (vv. 34-35)?

What was the name of the woman who met Mary and Joseph in the temple? What do you know about her from vv. 36-37? What did she say about Jesus in v. 38?

How do these two examples help you as you reflect on how to live your life and end it meaningfully? What characteristics of Simeon and Anna challenge you?

3. Read Luke chapter 3. Describe the historical context when John the Baptist began to preach (vv. 1-2).

What was John's message (v. 3)?

How did Luke interpret John's prophetic role (vv. 4-6)?

How do we prepare for Jesus' coming to us?

Why did people want to be baptized by John (v. 7)?

How did John challenge those who had the wrong motives to be baptized (vv. 8-14)?

Is confession of sins and a changed life separable?

List the 3 specific responses that John's message demanded (vv. 11-14).

What changes can you make in sharing what you have, doing your work honestly and well, and being contented?

What motivates your faith and how do you exercise your faith?

If baptism was a sign of repentance, why do think Jesus asked to be baptized (v. 21)?

What happened when Jesus was baptized (vv. 21-22)?

Explain how Jesus' baptism shows that God exists in 3 persons.

4. Read Luke chapter 4. Why did the Spirit lead Jesus into the wilderness (vv. 1-2)?

Is it always true that if the Holy Spirit leads us, it will always be "Besides quiet waters" (Ps 23:2)? Give other examples from Scripture where God led his servants into difficult situations?

Why do you think it was necessary for Jesus to be tempted?

What was Jesus' first temptation (v. 3)? Why do you think it would have been challenging for Jesus (v. 2)?

How did Jesus respond to the first temptation (v. 4)? What can you learn from Jesus' response?

What was Jesus' second temptation (vv. 5-7)? Did Jesus argue with Satan about who owns the world?

How did Jesus answer (v. 8)? What can you learn from Jesus' answer?

What was Jesus' third temptation (vv. 9-11)? How did Satan misinterpret Psalm 91 to tempt Jesus?

What do you learn from Jesus' response (v. 12)?

How do Christians today put God to the test?

Give reasons to explain how Jesus overcame temptation. Give other biblical passages about how Christians can overcome temptation.

5. Read Lk. 4:14-36. Where did Jesus go and what did he do after defeating Satan (vv. 14-15)? How did the people respond?

How did the Spirit work in and with Jesus (3:22; 4:1)?

What did Jesus do in Nazareth (v. 16)? Why do you think Jesus began his Messianic ministry in this place and in this way? What passage

did Jesus read in the synagogue (vv. 17-19)? How did this passage from Isaiah give hope to the Babylonian captives? How does the Scripture also introduce Jesus as the Messiah? What kind of Messianic mission does Jesus have?

What is the good news (3:18)?

Who are the poor (7:22)? Who do you think are the prisoners, the blind, and the oppressed?

What did Jesus do and say after reading this scripture (vv. 21)? How does Jesus fulfill this prophecy of Isaiah? How did the people respond initially (v. 22)?

How did Jesus rebuke them (vv. 23-27)?

What was the story of the widow of Zarephath? What was the story of Naaman? How did each demonstrate faith? Were they Jews (vv. 25-27)?

Why were the people in the synagogue furious with Jesus (vv. 28-30)? How should they have responded?

How do you respond when you are rebuked?

6. Read Lk. 5:27-39. Who was Levi and what was he doing (v. 27)? How did the Jews regard tax collectors (v. 30)? How could Jesus have hope for a tax collector?

What was Jesus' invitation to Levi (vv. 28-29)? What was Levi's response? What did this decision to follow Jesus mean to Levi? What are his losses and gains?

How did Levi celebrate his changed life (v. 29)?

Why did the Pharisees complain to Jesus' disciples (vv. 30-32)? What do you learn about the Pharisees from their complaint? How did

Jesus answer them? What do we learn about Jesus from his reply?
What does it mean for sinners to repent?

How and why did the Pharisees compare Jesus' disciples with the
disciples of John and those of the Pharisees (vv. 33)?

How did Jesus defend his disciples (v. 34)?

Why might the feast at Levi's house be like a heavenly celebration
(5:17)? What can we learn about the characteristics of life in Jesus?

Why can't a new patch be put on an old garment (v. 36)? Why can't
new wine be put in old wineskins (vv. 37-39)?

What is the new wine (2 Cor 5:17)?

What is the old wine?

What would be the old wine mean to the disciples (5:5; 28)?

What is the old wine to you?

7. Read Lk 7:36-50. Who invited Jesus to a dinner party in v. 36?

Was the woman in v. 37 also an invited guest?

What do you know about the woman? What did she bring with her?
Why did she crash the party?

Describe what she did in v. 38.

Why do you think she was weeping as she anointed Jesus' feet?

What did the Pharisee say to himself when he saw the woman (v.
39)?

Was Jesus able to sense what Simon the Pharisee was thinking (v.
40)?

Describe the parable that Jesus told him in vv. 41-42.

Did Simon understand Jesus' point (vv. 42-43).

What social errors did Simon commit (vv. 44-46)? In contrast to Simon's inaction, what did the woman do for Jesus?

What motivated the woman to show overflowing love to Jesus (v. 47)?

Do you realize the depth of your sin? Do you appreciate the wideness of God's mercy?

How can you like the woman show overflowing love to Christ?

LUKE 9-17

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- a. The Bible reading plan for Week 25: Lk 9-17*
- b. The following questions may be used for personal reflection or cell group discussion. You do not need to attempt all questions at cell meetings.*

1. Read Lk. 9:18-27. What did Jesus do in v. 18? Why do you think this subject is important?

How did the disciples respond (v. 19)?

What was Jesus' next question for them (v. 20)?

Who replied and what was the reply?

When Jesus says, "Who do you say I am?", what does Jesus want us to do? Why is important to take a stand about Jesus?

Why do you think Jesus warned them not to tell others that he was the Christ at this point (v. 21)?

What kind of Messiah was Jesus (v. 22)? What will it mean for Jesus to fulfill his role as the Messiah?

What kind of Messiah were the Jews of Jesus' day expecting? How did Jesus' revelation meet up with the disciples' understanding of Messiah?

What did Jesus say those who wanted to follow him must do (v. 23)?

In Jesus' day, what did it mean to take up the cross? What does it mean to you today?

What will a person who think the present life is most important do?

If following Jesus is most important to you, what would you be willing to risk?

Is there anything that can compensate for the loss of eternal life (v. 25)?

Why is the cross so central to the message of the gospel?

Modern day Christianity has been described as being a self-centred gospel. Do you agree with this assessment? How are you tempted to "gain the world"? How can we continue to follow Jesus as he calls us?

2. Read Lk 10:25-37. Who was speaking to Jesus in this passage (v. 25)? What was the first question he asked him? Why do you think he was trying to test Jesus?

How did Jesus respond to this question?

How did the lawyer respond to Jesus' question?

What did the lawyer ask Jesus to define (v. 29)? What was his motive?

How did Jesus respond to the question (vv. 30-36)?

Why do you think Jesus answered the lawyer's question with a parable?

What was Jesus' purpose in including a priest and a Levite in the parable? What contributions do they make to the story?

Why did Jesus make the Samaritan the hero of the story? What deficiency about the lawyer was Jesus trying to point out?

What do you think is the main point of the story?

What principles about loving your neighbor do you learn from the parable?

3. Read Lk 12:22-34. Who was Jesus talking to in v. 22? What did Jesus compare his listeners to in this passage?

Why do you think Jesus used birds and flowers as illustrations of God's protection and provision of his followers?

What examples did Jesus give regarding those things that people worry about?

What should be the focus of every believer (v. 31)? What do you think is the main point of the parable?

What does it mean to seek the kingdom of God? What is involved?

Are you holding back any areas of your life from God's control?

If money should not be seen as an end to itself, what is the key to using money wisely?

Does your money free you to help others?

4. Read Lk. 35-59. Jesus repeatedly said he would leave this world but would return at some future time (Matt 24; 25; Jn 14:1-3), and that he would prepare a kingdom for his followers.

Based on vv. 35-37, for what must we be ready? How can we be ready? Why will it be good for those servants whose master finds them ready and watching?

Read vv. 38-40. With what attitude should we wait for Christ to come? To what future event does this refer (1 Thess 4:16; Mk 8:38; Matt 25:31)? When will the Son of Man come according to v. 40? How might your attitude be different if you knew the exact time of his coming?

What did Peter ask in v. 41?

How did Jesus respond to Peter's question (vv. 42-48)?

In vv. 41-46, what characterizes (i) the faithful manager (servant). (ii) the unfaithful servant? What will happen to each of them when the master returns? In light of vv. 41-46, what do you think it means to be ready?

Contrast the 2 servants in vv. 47-48? What is commended by the Lord? What is censured by the Lord?

What does it mean for Jesus "to bring fire on the earth" and to "have a baptism to undergo" (vv. 49-53)? In what way does Jesus bring division, not peace?

Who does Jesus address in vv. 54-59? Why does he call them hypocrites? Define: hypocrite. What event is Jesus referring to that would be much more important than the year's crops?

What is the consequence of intentionally ignoring the sign of the times?

How can you apply this passage to your life on a daily basis? God's true servants will not be caught unaware, but will always be found doing their master's will.

5. Read Lk. 17:1-17. What warning does Jesus issue in vv. 1-3? Who do you think are the "little ones" in v. 2?

Read vv. 3-4. What does it mean to "rebuke" a brother who sins? What is the purpose of rebuking? Can rebuke ever be separated from forgiveness? What will help the sinning person?

Why did the apostles request in v. 5? Why did they make the request?

Why didn't Jesus directly answer their request (v. 6)? What is more important: the amount of faith or the right kind of faith? When is faith genuine?

Read vv. 7-10. How are we to understand acts of obedience to God? Is Jesus rendering our service as meaningless or useless, or is he doing away with rewards? What is Jesus critiquing in these verses?

Read vv. 11-17. What instruction did Jesus give to the 10 lepers (v. 14)? How did they respond? Were they healed? Would you say that they responded in faith? Is your trust in God so strong that you act on what he says before you see evidence that it will work?

Jesus healed all 10 lepers. How many returned to thank him (vv. 15-17)? What further reward did this man who had already received healing receive in v. 19? What revelation did Jesus give him? Was this man a Jew (v. 16)? Is God's grace only for some people like the Jews? What was Luke's point in identifying the man as a Samaritan?

How can you apply the principles you have learned from this passage in your daily life?

LUKE 18-24

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- a. The Bible reading plan for Week 26: Lk. 18-24
- b. The following questions may be used for personal reflection or cell group discussion. You do not need to attempt all questions at cell meetings.

1. Read Lk. 18:9-14. To whom did Jesus address his parable (v. 9)?

Why did the 2 men in the parable go up to Jerusalem? Where is the center of Jewish worship? Why is it the center of Jewish worship?

Did the Pharisee go up to the temple to pray to God (vv. 11-12)? What did he announce to all within earshot to hear?

What are the flaws of the Pharisee based on what he "prayed about himself"? How does he commend himself? Why does he despise the tax collector?

What did the tax collector do and what did he say to God (v. 13)? Why is the tax collector "justified before God"?

What about the Pharisee cut him off from God?

Why should we pray like the tax collector? What lessons have you learned? How can you apply this in your daily life?

2. Read Lk 18:15-29. In v. 15, why were people bringing babies to Jesus?

Why did the disciples rebuke the people (v. 15)? What does this tell you about how they viewed children?

What did Jesus do when he saw the children (v. 16)? What did Jesus say (vv. 16-17)? Why did he say this? How can anyone enter the kingdom of God?

What did the ruler ask Jesus in v. 18? How did he address Jesus? Define: eternal life.

Why did Jesus reply with a question, "Why do you call me good?" in v. 19. What are the implications of Jesus' response in v. 17? Do you think the man understood the implications of Jesus' reply?

Why did Jesus direct the ruler's attention to certain commandments and not to others (v. 20)? Which commandments did Jesus highlight? Which commandments were not mentioned?

How did the ruler response to Jesus (v. 21)?

What lack did Jesus point out in v. 22? What was the very basis of the man's security and identity? What or who could offer the man greater security than his wealth? What invitation did Jesus give to the man? How could the man overcome the hindrances that prevented him from accepting Jesus' offer?

Does Jesus ask all believers to sell everything they have? Would you be willing to part with anything to follow Jesus? What is the basis of your security?

What was the effect of Jesus' saying (v. 22) on the man (v. 23)?

Why is it difficult for wealthy people to realize their need and powerlessness to save themselves (v. 24)? What hope is there for them then (vv. 26-27)?

Peter said to Jesus that the disciples had paid a high price to follow him (v. 26). What was Jesus' reply to Peter in vv. 29-30?

Should you dwell on what you have given up? If not, what should you think about instead? Can we ever outgive God? How can you apply what you have learned in your daily life?

3. Read Lk. 19:1-10. Where was Jesus in v. 1? Who came to see who Jesus was (v.3)?

What do we know about the man (v. 2)?

Were tax collectors popular in Israel? Why or why not?

Why did the man climb up a tree (vv. 3-4)?

When Jesus look up and saw the man, what did Jesus say to him (v. 5)? How did the man respond to Jesus (v. 6)?

What did the people say about Jesus in v. 7?

Judging from the crowd's reaction, what kind of tax collector do you think the man was?

After the man met Jesus, what did he realize and what did he do (v. 8)? How did the man demonstrate inward change of heart?

Has your faith resulted in changed behavior? Has your faith resulted in action and good works? What changes do you need to make?

When Jesus said that the man was a son of Abraham and yet needed to be saved, in what ways must he have shocked his Jewish audience (vv. 9-10)? Are people saved by a good heritage? Are people condemned by a bad heritage? What is more important than heritage? How does one experience salvation?

What is Jesus' mission in the world (v. 10)? What is your mission in the world? What has God called you to do on this side of eternity?

4. Read Lk. 20:27-39. What did the Sadducees believe in regard to the resurrection (v. 27)? Why do you think they came to Jesus? What kind of question did they ask Jesus?
What did they ask Jesus (vv. 28-33)?

Why did they ask Jesus about the marital status of the woman at the resurrection when they did not believe in the resurrection?

How did Jesus address the question of marriage in vv. 34-35? Should we think of heaven as an extension of life as we know it now? Will there be gender-based marriages in heaven? Will relationships be the same as what we are used to here and now?

How did Jesus answer their real question about the resurrection in vv. 36-38? How did Jesus address their faulty ideas about the resurrection?

What was the response of the Sadducees after Jesus answered their question (vv. 39-40)?

Have you ever considered the idea of marriage for eternity? Does it make you happy or sad to think that we won't be married in the next life? Why or why not?

How do you see God as being the God of the living and not the dead?

5. Read Luke chapter 24. What did the women bring to the tomb (v. 1)? Why did they do that? Why do we bring flowers?

What did they discover when they arrived at the tomb (v. 2)?

What did they see when they were inside the tomb (vv. 3-4)?

Why were the women fearful (vv. 4-5)?

What did the strange men say to the women (vv. 6-7)? What did the angels remind the women about what Jesus had predicted before his death (9:22; 44; 18:31-33)?

Why is the resurrection so important?

**To whom did Jesus appear afterwards (vv. 13-35; 36-43; 44-49)?
Why do you think his disciples had difficulty recognizing the risen Christ? How did Jesus help them to recognize him?**

Why did Jesus call the 2 disciples foolish in v. 25? What did they fail to understand (vv. 26-27)? How would you account for their failure?

What causes you to stumble over the Word of God and the things of God? How do you plan to deal with these stumbling blocks?

JUNE YEAR 1